GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5170
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2001
FRENCH ASSISTANCE IN DIGITAL TRANSMISSION
SUKDEO PASWAN

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether after according the approval to Direct-to-Home television in the country, Government are working to make Indian television telecasting in digital mode;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take the services of and expertise of France to implement this scheme; and

(c) the time by which the action would be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a): Transition to digital technology is being pursued by Prasar Bharati. For this purpose,Doordarshan is setting up four digital terrestrial transmitters at Delhi, Calcutta, Mumbaiand Chennai on an experimental basis. These transmitters are likely to be set up during 2001-2002.

(b)&(c): While Doordarshan is open to any valuable input from any quarter, no proposal from France has been received. Switch over from analog to digital terrestrial broadcasting is dependent on availability of resources and market response, and as such no firm time frame can be indicated.